

Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-18 are pending in the application. Claims 3 and 6 have been cancelled and their subject matter incorporated into independent Claim 1. New dependent Claims 16, 17 and 18 have been added.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 14 and 15 have been rejected as allegedly anticipated by Van Voorhis. Van Voorhis describes a sound-making wheeled stick horse. The stick horse includes a stick with the head of an animal at one end and a pair of wheels at the other end. The neck portion of the head includes a sound-making element that creates a sound to imitate the animal whose head is used on the first end. Thus, Van Voorhis is similar to the prior art stick horses described in the background section of this application. *See*, paragraphs [0002]-[0004].

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the invention. The claim now recites at least one decorative member and a sound pad each coupled to the housing, which was previously the subject matter of cancelled Claims 3 and 6. Further, Claim 1 now recites that the decorative member gives the toy glider the appearance of a particular mechanized vehicle and that the sound pad makes sounds associated with the particular mechanized vehicle. Examples of decorative members can be found throughout the specification, such as the wings of a jet plane or spacecraft, or the rearview mirror of an automobile, as described in paragraph [0059]. In addition, Claim 1 recites that the sound pad makes sounds associated with the particular mechanized vehicle. Written support for the newly claimed elements related to the sound pad can be found in the specification at, for example, paragraph [0061].

The invention according to Claim 1 is clearly distinguishable from Van Voorhis. Van Voorhis does not show or describe a toy glider having a decorative member that gives the glider the appearance of a particular mechanized vehicle. Further, Van Voorhis does not show or describe a sound pad that makes sounds associated with a particular mechanized vehicle.

Van Voorhis also does not suggest the claimed features. In particular, Van Voorhis is based on the conventional wisdom in the art that stick horse toys should be in the form of a horse or other animal. However, as explained in the background of the application, horses have been replaced as a means of transportation in modern society by automobiles, motorcycles, buses, planes and the like. As such, the viability of a toy horse has diminished. Instead, the present inventors have found that children are more likely to enjoy a toy that resembles a mechanized

vehicle. Because Van Voorhis is limited to the conventional wisdom that stick horse toys should be limited to those that appear and make sounds of horses or other animals, Van Voorhis provides no suggestion to make a glider according to Claim 1. Specifically, Van Voorhis provides no motivation to equip a toy glider with a decorative member that gives the glider the appearance of a particular mechanized vehicle and a sound pad that makes sounds associated with that particular mechanized vehicle. Therefore, this invention fills a need in modern society for toy gliders that can capture the attention of children who are accustomed to modern transportation modes.

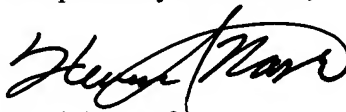
Claim 14 has been amended to emphasize another innovative feature of the present invention. Claim 14 is directed to a method of manufacturing a toy glider utilizing interchangeable parts that permits the toy glider to be assembled so as to easily and efficiently tailor the toy to the diverse tastes of different children. According to the method of this invention, a plurality of different interchangeable rollers are provided, in which the different rollers are adapted to make the toy glider resemble different types of vehicles or objects. When a toy glider is made, a roller is selected from the group of interchangeable rollers to make the glider resemble a particular vehicle or object. Dependent Claims 16 and 17 have been added to further distinguish the method of this invention from the prior art. Claims 16 and 17 recite the provision and attachment of interchangeable wings and bumpers, respectively. Support for new Claims 16 and 17 and for the amended elements of Claim 14 can be found throughout the specification, and specifically in paragraphs [0064] and [0065]. New Claim 18 is directed to a glider manufactured according to the method of Claim 14.

Van Voorhis does not include any description or suggestion of providing interchangeable elements to give the wheeled stick horse the appearance of different types of vehicles or objects. Thus, this invention represents a significant advancement over Van Voorhis by allowing manufacturers to produce toy gliders of different appearances and configurations according to the individual tastes of children with minimal effort and expense. The toy glider can be formed with a universal shaft coupled to one particular roller (or set of rollers) selected from a plurality of different interchangeable rollers, each of which is adapted to make the toy glider resemble a different vehicle or object. In this way, many different toy gliders can be manufactured and provided to children in an economical way. Van Voorhis is devoid of any suggestion to do so.

Claims 4, 8 and 13 have been rejected as allegedly obvious over the theoretical combination of Van Voorhis and Thornell. Thornell describes a light display drive for a rocking toy. The rocking toy includes a body on which the child may sit to rock the toy, and a light display visible through a translucent portion of the toy. The light display is powered by the rocking motion provided by the child. Thornell has been cited in the Office Action as allegedly rendering obvious the elements set forth in dependent Claims 4, 8 and 13, which include a light pad and a handle. Thornell does not remedy the deficiencies of Van Voorhis with respect to independent Claims 1 and 14. Specifically, Thornell does not describe or suggest a toy glider having a decorative member coupled to a housing, in which the decorative member gives the toy glider the appearance of a particular mechanized vehicle, or a sound pad that makes sounds associated with the particular mechanized vehicle. Nor does Thornell describe or suggest the method according to Claim 14, in which a plurality of interchangeable rollers are provided for adapting a toy glider to resemble different types of vehicles or objects. Because Claims 4, 8 and 13 are dependent upon patentable Claims 1 and 14, these dependent claims are also patentable for at least the same reasons.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that all of the objections and rejections set forth in the Official Action be reconsidered and withdrawn. A Notice of Allowance is solicited. If the Examiner believes that further minor amendments or correction as to matter of form would advance the case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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